

REMARKS:

The claims have been amended so that there are now 4 independent claims. The total number of claims remains fewer than 20.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the fee for an independent claim in excess of three ($1 \times \$44$) = \$44 to Deposit Account No: 01-0310. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

The claims have been amended in order to be distinguished from the Examiner's cited references and any other prior art known to the applicant. In particular independent Claim 1 has been amended, previously submitted Claim 11 has been amended in independent form and new independent Claims 14 and 18 have been added.

Claim 1 includes the subject matter of previously submitted Claim 9 regarding the mounting portion comprising a channel for receiving the beam therein. As the Examiner previously indicated that Claim 9 would be found allowable if rewritten in independent form, Claim 1 should now be in condition for allowance.

Claim 11 has been amended in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claim in order to also be in condition for allowance as previously suggested by the Examiner.


New independent Claim 14 and the claims dependent therefrom include the subject matter of previously submitted Claims 1 and 9 so as to be similar in scope to the now amended Claim 1 but in a form in which the tool support is claimed in combination with the wooden beam. This claim is therefore narrower in scope than currently amended Claim 1 which the Examiner already indicated would be allowable.

New independent Claim 18 and the claims dependent therefrom include all of the same limitations of Claim 1 and previously submitted Claim 9 but in the form of a method claim including the further limitations of attaching the clamping members of the uprights onto a conventional size wooden construction beam. New Claim 18 is therefore also narrower in scope than the currently amended Claim 1 and accordingly should also be in condition for allowance.

Early and favourable reconsideration of this application is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted

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CERTIFICATION OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this paper is being facsimile transmitted to the Patent And Trademark Office on the date shown below.

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DATE: Oct 1/04